



Focus on the crocus to brighten Rotary day

For some it is a long time since 1985 when Rotary first began to attempt to eradicate the dreadful disease of polio throughout the world. Last year's End Polio Now and Thanks for Life campaigns were two of the initiatives in the attempt to raise two hundred million dollars internationally. Trying to inspire and continue any campaign is sometimes difficult, but an offer was received. It was a spark of pure genius and Rotary decided to plant Ruby Giant purple flowering crocus bulbs throughout the country to remind the public of the campaign and adopt the name Focus on the Crocus for 2010.

Purple is the colour painted on children's fingers when they have received polio vaccine on National Immunisation Days in the four countries in which polio still exists, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria. A crocus usually flowers in late February a fitting reminder of the efforts over the past years which will continue to bloom for years to come.

The offer of a thousand bulbs to plant at first sight was perhaps a daunting task but when all one thousand arrived in a container no larger than a shoe box it inspired Rotarians to order even more.

The response has been enthusiastic not only from the press but from recipients.

There are crocus bulbs all over the place, thanks to the efforts of fifty two clubs in Rotary District 1070, from Boston in the north to Biggleswade in the south, Peterborough in the east and Towcester in the west, who have ordered their supplies for planting in October to the tune of around 109,000. Most of these will now be in the ground biding their time before flowering to help us make Rotary International Day on 23rd February a visual spectacular in schools, roadsides and public parks.

Some clubs have registered for an attempt on a Guinness Book of Records planting challenge and most have involved members, family and friends, schools or local groups helping with the work to build communities.

In the magazine there are details of individual projects, enough to make the editor consider printing the text in purple. You can even follow the progress of this initiative on www.focusonthecrocus.org



Formula 1... P.2



Kempston channel ski... P.6



101 Dalmations... P.10



The dragons are coming... P.11



Pakistan floods... P.12



Time flies when you are busy

The last three months have flown by and at the time of writing some 53 Clubs have been visited. I have been overwhelmed by the warmth of my receptions and have been tremendously impressed by the work being done by our Rotarians.



The most important thing is that they enjoy their Rotary Membership and from this we develop the projects that make a difference to so many. Continuity is also much in evidence as our Clubs plan to ensure that they run effective programmes many of which span a number of Rotary years and hence a number of Presidents. Your previous District Governors have ensured continuity within the District to provide the support that our Clubs need.

The terms 'my year' and 'your year' are used less and less as we work together to assist the local and international communities.

I am, as you know, raising the profile of 'AGE UK' and 'DEMENTIA' Charities but I am aware that our Clubs have many other commitments hence the term 'Raising the Profile'.

Whilst visiting Clubs I am mindful that it is not those in District office for 12 months, but our Club Rotarians that will enable us to be 'BIGGER, BETTER, BOLDER'.

Those who attended our Bournemouth Conference will remember Rotary Representative Ray Burman make comments along similar lines, irrespective of office we are all club Rotarians. Whilst mentioning Bournemouth I must thank all the attending delegates for their support

together with the Conference Team and those who hosted. I hope that you found the range of topics and speakers to your liking and that over the weekend you enjoyed the experience. We were certainly fortunate with the weather.

Of late many of us have been planting purple crocus bulbs gratefully sourced by Dick Parsley. This year General Council has decided to build on the success of last year's 'THANKS FOR LIFE', again continuity is the key.

Whilst February 23rd 2011 is Rotary Day do not let the date inhibit your ideas.

Pull-ups and promotional materials can be obtained from Dick who is a member of Wellingborough Hatton.

I look forward to continuing meeting our Rotarians over the coming months and discovering more about our Club initiatives as we continue to

BUILD COMMUNITIES & BRIDGE CONTINENTS

Roger

Reward for Kettering Huxloe



After many years running the District Shop the Rotary Club of Kettering Huxloe were rewarded with the Foundation Trophy by Past District Governor Dick Parsley but particularly Bob Frost was presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship.

Wigston fireworks dazzle



Loros fundraisers have thanked organisers of a picnic and fireworks music concert which collected £16,000 for the charity.

F1 for college pupils



With assistance from Rotary, four Lutterworth College students designed and manufactured a model Formula 1 racing car. They entered the F1 in Schools UK National Competition, won the top design award and came second overall. The team was selected to represent the UK at the 2010 International F1 Competition in September in Singapore at which 30 countries took part. Prior to this they linked with a college in Malaysia to jointly design and build a new vehicle with which they will compete against world class opposition.

The role of the District Governor

As DG you are often expected to carry out many duties that are not in the job description.

Roger McDermott found this out when he visited the Nene Valley Dragon Festival on Sunday September 19th.

Po-Lio the bear, mascot for our Thanks for Life Campaign had been placed on the flagpole at the top of the Climbing Wall.

How he got there was anyone's guess, rumour had it Corby Phoenix Rotary Club had something to do with it.

Alas no Rotary Volunteer could be found to rescue him so it was up to the DG to set an example and do the honorable thing and climb up the wall!

It was definitely not Roger's day especially when Kay won the Teddy Bear on Tombola stall – definitely the spare room for the DG following this.





The Three Peaks – the story of a challenge

After several months of planning and training, a team of ten from the Rotary Club of Melton Mowbray undertook the challenge of climbing all three of



the highest mountains in England, Scotland and Wales within 24 hours towards the end of June 2010, all with the aim of raising funds to support various local and international charity efforts of the club: Polio Eradication, Kids Out and humanitarian projects in the Philippines. In completing the Challenge in less than 24 hours they raised just over £5,000 towards these excellent good causes.

The team of walkers, Phil Bendall, Joe Carrington, John Dehnel, Ron Edwards, Chris Hall, Gavin Howling and Tony Lord, was supported by the logistics team of Sue Hall, Steve Jeal and David Ward. The training started in March, followed by several days of increasingly strenuous walks in the Peak District. They went up to the Lake District in May to sample some higher mountains, and then on the 21st June set off to Scotland with the supportive good luck wishes of the club in their minds. They started walking at 16.56 from the Youth Hostel at the foot of Ben Nevis, allowing an evening ascent of this first mountain, an early morning climb to the top of Scafell Pike and an afternoon “stroll” to complete the challenge on Snowdon. A total of 11,000 feet of climbing, 20 miles of walking and about 500 miles of driving between the mountains. The last of these three, the driving, accounted for the efforts of the fantastic three logistics team – who drove, fed and watered them between the mountains, an essential ingredient of any such expedition. Many thanks are owed to them.

Rather than relate the story of each peak individually, suffice it to say that

all three went quite uneventfully. That is to say: which way do we go? Up, then down. For time reasons they had necessarily chosen the shortest but therefore the steepest routes and all were daunting in their own ways. All three mountains demanded a steady but unrelenting pace up almost continuous ascents. Snowdon, which started very gently, ended with a real sting in the tail for the final ascent. They failed to get lost on the mountains, other than a brief diversion on a rather long “short cut” down Ben Nevis, and the teams stayed together to arrive at the top of each climb. They were lucky



with the weather, particularly in that they had reasonable visibility from the top of each, some cloud but views each time of the valleys below.

They completed Ben Nevis in 5 hours flat, Scafell Pike in 3 hrs 40 mins, and Snowdon in 3 hrs 33 mins, completing the whole expedition in 23 hrs 7 mins.

Little did they know that a team from Kibworth and Fleckney were also up for the challenge and only found out after submitting their report to News & Events.

Forty minutes to spare

Five walkers from Kibworth and Fleckney undertook the challenging Three Peaks walk challenge at the beginning of June. This involved walking the highest peaks in Scotland, Ben Nevis, England, Scafell Pike and Wales, Snowdon, in under 24 hours. It was successfully completed in 23 hours and 20 minutes by Peter Leverett, Nick Lacey, James Chambers, Adam Rowlands, and the senior member



of the team David Lonergan who was an inspiration both on the walk and in his preparation for it. They raised in excess of £4000 through sponsors such as local shoe retailer Shoezone and also through the “just giving” website.



Books for Sri Lanka

Ever since the tsunami struck Sri Lanka in 2004, the Stamford Rotary Club has been beavering away and have sent more than 10 tons of books, encyclopaedias and GCSE reading matter, kindly donated by local Stamford schools and citizens. To ensure they do not go astray, and reach their proper destination, colleagues in the Rotary Club of Kandy have been instrumental in looking after their safe delivery.

Masterminding this operation is Tony Wakefield who already has upward of another 3 tons in his warehouse, currently being packed, ready for onward transmission towards the end of this year.





Focus on the Crocus around the District

Volunteers at the A47 roundabout, Uppingham



On the morning of Saturday October 2nd 2010 volunteers drawn from Uppingham in Bloom, Uppingham WI and the Rotary Club of Uppingham came together to plant 4000 purple Ruby Giant crocus bulbs in the shape of four inverted horseshoes on the A47 roundabout.

Bulbs for the event have been sponsored by Welland Vale Nurseries, Uppingham WI, the Beeches Residents Association and the Rotary Club of Uppingham.

The project is the first in a series of planned collaborative ventures between Uppingham in Bloom and the Rotary Club of Uppingham with support from Uppingham School.



Six district crocus planting at Hinkley

The event on included RI Director David Liddiatt and IPP RIBI David Fowler, our DG Roger and a good contingent from 1070 including the Rotary Club of Hinckley.



Photo shows a very gorgeous lady and others preparing bulbs for the pot.

Wellingborough and Wellingborough Hatton



1600 crocus bulbs planted as a joint venture at the entrance to The Castle Theatre, Wellingborough

Focus on the Crocus – Rushden

Jim met President Brian and our Horticultural Expert Colin by the Rotary Wall on the corner of Duck Street in the damp rather than the rain which had abated. A high level 'Pow Wow' took place to decide site to plant the crocuses, form of display, depth and spacing.



By then the rain had stopped and Jim decided to have a go at the planting and Colin duly set about laying string lines and letters sprinkled in sand, the latter being abandoned because the sand was wet, the ground was wet and there was the danger that everybody else might get wet.

By this time, a passing motorised who turned out to be our very own Rodney Fox stopped and was duly Pressed Ganged into helping.

A four foot high 'ROTARY' sign was cut out in the grass verge and the team set about planting out the numerous bulbs in each letter, hoping for a February blaze of purple to celebrate. We will have to wait till February to see if Colin can spell Rotary!

Your Roving Reporter

Lutterworth Crocus



After a threat of rain the weather changed in favour of Lutterworth Rotarians who planted six thousand crocus bulbs purchased from RIBI's four million bought to highlight Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio Worldwide.



**Rotary Young Leaders
- another successful year**

Dawn to dusk

On July 3rd 2010 a group of walkers from Thrapston and Raunds Rotary club, together with friends and family members walked our second Dawn 2 Dusk walk of 35 miles along the Nene Way. They did the same walk 2 years ago, and raised a total of £10,000.

They started at Earls Barton Church at 6 am and walked to the Chequered Skipper Pub Ashton arriving between 10½ to hours 13½ later. The weather was very warm, and all suffered due to the sun, consequent dehydration and blisters. Fourteen individuals and nine relay teams finished the walk without serious mishap. All met up for a barbeque and drinks at the finish on Ashton village green. Food, water and juices were supplied to all walkers at each checkpoint and a lunch provided by Inner Wheel at the 20 mile point.

The money is still coming in and the club hopes to raise around £6,000 to £8,000 to go towards The Air Ambulance, RNLI and charities, most notably Shelterbox.

Stephen Cotterell



New club speaks out at seminar

On Thursday 2nd September the District Membership seminar in Corby which was attended by over one hundred and thirty people including Kettering Tresham a club in formation.

Ian Thomson, Peter Davey and DG Roger McDermott addressed many issues regarding retaining new members, including one sorry statistic that 25% of new members leave within their first two years. The request for discussion questions lowered the flood gates.

Formation President, Andrea Crellin, reported club meetings did not involve a meal and focused on getting the public to contribute, not chequebook Rotary.

Jodie Bodsworth (not a "standard" Rotarian) a full time mother of three children, wanted to socialise, do good in her local community as her 'me-time' and asked Rotary to lose the stuffy image.

Mandy Halsey was outraged at being asked earlier if she was at the right event.

One couple, Simon and Ruth King, had previously been told by another club that couples could not be members and both joined so they could do something good together.

Rotary is evolving, new generations will ensure a rich variety of opportunity for change.





Kempston ski the channel

Long before Christine Bleakley from the BBC announced that she was to ski across the Channel in aid of Sport Relief, Kempston Rotary Club had begun to organise a similar event for local charities in the area.

It was decided that the Channel was too far from Kempston and so together with Box End Park Water Centre, arranged to use their "Tow Skiing Facility" to offer the chance for local charitable organisations to take part in a challenge that was slightly different – but real FUN!



minutes to complete 20 laps of the cable tow circuit at Box End Park. The teams gathered sponsorship and retained 75% for their own chosen charity or organisation.

There were several newcomers to the "art" of being "dragged across water by a rope when you

can't stop" but they all had a try and many surprised themselves and are already talking about going back for more!

In the true sense of supporting the community – one team was a member short and so our Vice President – Joyce Boddey volunteered to step in to make up the numbers. Actually, we volunteered her and she agreed!

Each team of five had 60

A very enjoyable morning was had by all, especially those Rotarians who had got up early to come and count laps – only to find it was all computerised, so they had to make do with bacon rolls and tea whilst cheering the teams on.

Each team raised a considerable amount of money and the Club will be able to continue in supporting Rotary's work in the eradication of Polio and other projects within the community.



The trials and tribulations of organising a Country Fayre

"Hello, this is the owner of a Triumph Stag who attended your Country Fayre. I parked it under a lime tree and it rained – the paintwork is ruined and unless you pay for a re-spray, I will sue you".

"Hello, I am an official from Defra. You did not have the correct licences for the animals at the Country Fayre. We need to see you in our office – the offence can result in a fine and possible imprisonment".

"Hello, I am from the children's charity you supported from the proceeds of the Country Fayre. I would like to thank you and tell you that you have made a real difference to the children's lives".

The above are real examples of telephone calls that I have received over the last 19 years of being involved in the organisation of the Kimbolton Country Fayre. As others who have been involved in charity events will recognise, you put yourself at risk by endeavouring to raise money for good causes by staging a public event. This is especially true in today's litigious and rule-bound society. Years ago, when the Rotary Club of Kimbolton Castle and

The Sporting Bears Motor Club combined forces to stage the Fayre, little regulation existed and charity organisations were free to hold events to raise money with little thought of any possible adverse consequences.

These days, all of the stalls and entertainments require public liability insurance and must comply with health and safety regulations. Needless to say, the Risk Assessment and Health and Safety sections of our 'How to Stage the Fayre' manual are the thickest! Of course, the one thing we can't control is the weather – and we once had a heavy downpour on the Fayre day necessitating the use of tractors to pull out cars stuck in the mud. There have also been some unexpected events such as the time the hunt hounds not only ate a child's ice cream out of her hand, but also swiped the sausages off a red-hot barbeque (ice cream replaced at my expense, sausage owners not so lucky!)

Some things puzzle the organisers: Why is the probability of a classic car driver buying a £1 programme in inverse proportion to the value of his car? Why do normally well behaved birds of prey refuse to return to their

handlers when it is time for the next display? How do Morris Dancers manage to perform after spending hours in the beer tent?

Over the years, and despite all the incidents, the Kimbolton Country Fayre has raised over £150,000 for local and national charities. The success of the day is dependent on a large number of volunteers who give their time during a year of planning, and work for two 14-hour days over the Fayre weekend: but it's all worthwhile for the money we raise and the pleasure the Fayre gives to so many visitors

The Kimbolton Castle Rotary Club and Sporting Bears Motor Club commit to continue the Fayre, making it bigger and better each year. We donate all the proceeds to charity and this year will support Cancer Research UK; the Burns Camp (for children who have suffered severe burn injuries); Samuel Pepys School (a St Neots special school) and Hemi Help (for children with Hemiplegia).

I hope you enjoyed Sunday 18th of July at Kimbolton Castle.

*Andrew Pooley, Chair
Kimbolton Country Fayre Committee*



Distinguished award for RC of Grantham



The end of the year at the RC of Grantham is always highlighted by the presentation of the trophies and awards to the participants and recipients arising from the fantastic Swimathon, the keystone club fundraising event which has gone from strength to strength for 21 years. Over the time that it has run the total is nearing £500,000 with this year's final total being over £42,000.

Most of the funds go to local causes and charities and 10% to Rotary nominated destinations. DG Dick Parsley came to honour the occasion, as he had the actual event, and at the end surprised everyone by awarding the Rotary International Significant Achievement Award. This was given not only for the Swimathon, but the clincher was the phenomenal support for the Shelter Box appeal for Haiti, outstandingly led by President Rosalba Bertram, which in the course of three weeks raised over £20,000 enabling over 40 boxes to be sent.

This distinguished and rare award is for community and service programmes that provide models for future activities to inspire other Rotary clubs. The Swimathon model has certainly spread to far flung places such as Ruffec in France, Wolverhampton, Nottingham and even to Sleaford! The Haiti appeal was an example of effective and efficient organisation in co-operation with local stores and outlets and especially the Grantham Journal, which this year was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship by Rosalba for its community work.

There are only 104 Significant Achievement Awards given by RI President John Kenny this year, and Grantham has one out of 33 000 clubs worldwide. What an end to an outstanding year for the club. Well done!



In a bid to raise money towards the eradication of polio Peterborough Ortons launched the innovative 'Thanks for Life' project, aptly entitled 'Flight for Life'.

On 18th September pigeons flew from York to Peterborough, each sponsored bird representing vaccination for 50 children. Clubs in District 1070

were invited to participate to raise funds towards their own contribution. Biggleswade won the 2010 Pigeon Trophy for sponsoring the most birds. District Governor Roger McDermott presented the award to President Sam Murnal at the recent District Conference in Bournemouth.

Bright sunshine and bucket shaking sees Rotaractors raise £150 for Shelterbox

Armed with bright yellow, branded, tabards and many a Rotaract bucket, Kettering Phoenix Rotaractors took to the High Street on a sunny Saturday afternoon in July to launch our collection crusade for Shelter Box.

With the impressive ten-man tent erected precariously over a member's car and the contents of the life-saving box on show for all to see, they were hard to miss! So impressive was the display, that many passers by were disappointed that the equipment was not for sale! They explained, a donation could be made, so that the box and its invaluable contents could be ready to house and service a family in desperate need following a natural disaster.

With the sun on our side, and bucket shaking in full swing, the collection was a great success. They were delighted to raise £115 and hope to hold further collections over the coming months so that the club can fund an entire ShelterBox.



As well as raising a significant amount, they seized the chance to spread the Rotaract and Rotary word, telling one and all about the fantastic projects that they support both locally and internationally.

Following some entertaining attempts at fitting the enormous tent back into its bag, they enjoyed a well deserved barbeque and handover with new President Kim Parry receiving her gong from out going President Kirstie Beasley to top off a great day.

To find out more about Kettering Phoenix Rotaract Club, their projects or how to become a member, please contact info@rotarackettering.co.cc or visit www.rotarackettering.co.cc

The birds have flown

One of the pigeons sponsored by the information club Peterborough Southside was first home and declared the winner. They will receive a cheque for £200 to donate to a charity of their own choice. Individuals won the second and third prizes, winners coming from sponsors gained by Biggleswade and Peterborough Werrington respectively.

The home club Peterborough Ortons, who raised the highest number of sponsorships, failed to gain a single success amongst the prize winners. Members had to be satisfied with £900 raised towards the eradication of this terrible disease.

A similar event is planned for next year and it is hoped more clubs will be inspired to take part.

President Janet Cooke



You don't go to a Rotary meeting for the food

...and you certainly don't go to Conference to be served cheap wine at exorbitant prices!

The 2010 District 1070 Conference is over. I have driven the 150 miles home and I have had time to reflect during my journey. It would be very easy to complain about the food, the wine, the band and the acoustics on Saturday night. It would be even easier to complain about the utter chaos caused by the Scalectrix competition or the fact that the running order on both days of the conference bore little resemblance to that in the program. If one were feeling less than generous it would be extremely easy to complain about the length, or indeed the point, of Diana Moran's speech. But...

I have come away from the conference feeling enthused and fired up but at the same time humbled and in awe.

Why is that you may ask.

Well, I will tell you...

Despite the challenges that the organising committee faced with the venue, with the caterers, with keeping the speakers on subject and to time, the conference was a complete success.

The success was in part due to speakers like Rotarian David Wallwork who allowed his passion, personal commitment and dedication shine through when he told us of the [David School](#) project that he has, with the help of many, many Rotarians, Rotary Clubs, businesses and friends, embarked on to help the children of Sierra Leone. The David School project is truly a project in the image of Rotary.

The conference was a success in a part due to the wonderful friendship and camaraderie that everyone experienced throughout the weekend. New friendships were made and old friendships were reconfirmed. It is almost as if time has stood still since we last met.

RIBI Vice President Ray Burman, however, singlehandedly assured the success of the conference. I applaud him and I go away knowing that RIBI will be in safe hands in 2011.

So what was so significant about Ray's speech?

Hands, Head and Heart. Nothing more, nothing less.

In a few minutes, Ray reminded us that it is club Rotarians that make the difference. We provide hands to help whenever and wherever they are needed; we use our heads to solve problems and we always act from the heart. He reminded us that it is us as Rotarians that will assure the future of Rotary, leading by example and introducing our friends to the family of Rotary. He reminded us that Rotary is not desperate. We are not looking for new members at any cost. We need hands to help, heads to think and hearts to care.

Every Rotarian remembers who introduced them to Rotary. Most Rotarians remember who was President the year they joined. I for one, can't remember who was District Governor at the time when I became a member of the family of Rotary. The strength of Rotary is in the clubs. Who do you know that you would like to include in this very special family?



DISTRICT CONF



Conference 2010

Wouldn't it be nice if the sun always shone, temperatures were consistently at 23C, travel was free, and there was a major conference venue somewhere east of Leicester? But perhaps visiting the same venue could become repetitive? District Conference is a chance to meet old friends, recharge batteries, have fun and listen to those who normally would be mere names in the media.

Organising of the Bournemouth Conference proved more difficult than usual and the receipt of comment has been published but those who went to hear enthralling presentations were not disappointed.

Despite rain in the east Midlands those who chose to crawl through the M25 road works or Silverstone to Bournemouth were greeted on Friday afternoon with blue skies which shone throughout the weekend, even if it was a touch chilly, preventing the observation balloon from rising from its podium throughout the weekend. It is very difficult trying to find a balance

but with a mixture of youth and age there was a rich mix of experience. Forgetting entertainment all of the speeches were excellent. Next year's RIBI president elect Ray Burman was inspirational proving that one person should represent RI and RIBI. Tom Warrender, a former RLYA candidate, sold the experience before Green Goddess Diana Moran spoke of her life before even she was brought to tears by John Suchet talking about his wife Bonny and Admiral Nurses. On Sunday dedicated Rotarian David Wallwork and Maureen McKenna showed how well organised aid really makes a difference in Sierra Leone, the Philippines GSE Team showed what a difference the experience made to them – where did they get their energy from and can it be bottled for sale? Finally Comedian Roy Walker was well worth waiting for and brought a smile to all.

Will conference change, yes it has to. Those who remember Eastbourne will not forget Friday Night. Linda May announced that for Saturday Night in Southport Abba Revival had been booked to entertain with dancing on the main floor rather than in the aisles no matter how young or old. Roses are red, plant a crocus or two, there's something at Southport especially for you.

Roses are red, plant a crocus or two, there's something at Southport especially for you.

Roses are red, plant a crocus or two, there's something at Southport especially for you.

30th September to 2nd October 2011



CONFERENCE 2010



Forget the films, do real horse racing

A fantastic £3250 has been raised for Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Air Ambulance when Hobby Horse Crazy Racing came to Packington Village in early July at Beech House Farm, Ashby de la Zouch by the Ashby Hastings club.

Nine races, using eight horses carrying adults (oh yes they did) and children decked in bunting, produced exciting finishes. The race track was set out in a grid of 28 metres (EU standard) with each horse advancing on value of the dice thrown and betting on



the tote created great excitement. Helped along with well stocked bar and pig roast dancing under floodlights went on late into the night.

Perhaps this could even be considered inside a large hall and definitely an event to repeat.

At last Chris Knight was able to mount a charger (see photograph above).

The Deepings in raft race take over for 2011?

The Deeping Rotary Club has entered the Raft Race for a number of years, they have been Vikings, The Incredibles, 101 Dalmations, Angels & Demons and this year they were all dressed in military uniforms raising money for 'Help for Heroes'.

They rebuilt a second raft for Forces Cars Direct from an old raft with the help of Ian Prentice from the Deeping Recycling Centre who donated the old barrels.



Together both rafts raised over £2,000 for 'Help for Heroes'.

This year Rotary became more involved in the Raft Race event, providing marshals from a number of our local clubs. We also ran an outside bar with all profit going to charity. Talks are currently in progress with the Raft Race Committee to secure the future of the Deeping Raft Race for 2011 and years to come.

Hinchingbrooke Rotary run success

Hinchingbrooke RC have celebrated their first 'Huntingdon 10k Charity Run' in June with more than 400 registrants.

Leaving Huntingdon Race Course, the run followed a scenic route along bridleways and Great Stukeley. Race organiser Bob Holstrum was thrilled with the turnout and estimated that more than £20,000 would be raised for local and national charities. He thanked the many companies that had supported the event with sponsorship or free services.

Incoming President Mike Humphrey commented "How very lucky we are to have two absolute superstars in Bob and his wife Jane who not only come up with a project but then move heaven and earth to bring it in as a fabulous event that, could become the club's main fund raiser for years to come".



A real Rotary Star... fighting off leukemia

"Real courage in the making"...Jessica Gill, from Great Addington Church of England Primary School was just one the many young people recognised by Thrapston and Raunds Rotary Club for their caring attitudes towards others, their environment and exceptional bravery in the face of adversity.

Jessica was diagnosed with leukemia last year and has endured many treatments to fight off the disease. Headmaster Richard Meekings said, "We have been so proud of Jessica, she has been so brave and remained so cheerful".

The whole school gave her a standing ovation, tears flowed, as Andrew Morley presented her with her Rotary Star certificate, badge and voucher. Jessica was one of seven children nominated by the school for their caring attitudes.

As part of their Citizenship Initiative many schools welcome the opportunity to be involved in Rotary Stars.

Corby Phoenix Rotary Club recognised many children from Beanfield and Danesholme Primary Schools in the town. Club member Carolyn Wilson is hoping to extend the project to more schools in Corby this next year. Kettering Rotary Club also recognised children from Cranford Primary School and is hoping to involve more schools.



Many teachers have said "It's lovely project to be involved in and it gives us the opportunity to recognise children from outside the normal school curriculum"

These are the young people who could be the basis of a Rotakids Club in their school. Also due to the relationship built up with the schools through this project, many were willing and would like to continue to support Thanks for Life.

If your Club would like more information on the project contact Andrew on morley4u@aol.com.



The dragons are coming

The weather as usual is always key to the success of any public event and Sunday 19th September was no exception. Whilst the rain threatened on more than one occasion, the day was dry if a little cooler towards the end.

None of this either dampened down or cooled the enthusiasm of the crowd or the members of each of the crews of the 24 boats that took part. Great fun and terrific team spirit was displayed as each team took to the water for three elimination

races to produce a final which was eventually won by 'Sonifex Sharkbait' the team sponsored by Sonifex Ltd.

The whole event was a joint venture by the Rotary Clubs of Oundle, Corby Phoenix, Rushden, Rushden Chichele, Rushden Higham and the Rotaract Club of Kettering Phoenix, organised under the direction of the professional management of Gable Events and had been in the planning stage for over 12 tense months. There were times when it was thought that it might not happen due to the initial location of a suitable

venue, coupled with the finding of sponsors at a time of recession. Finally, with the assistance of the land owner, Lilford Lodge Lakes, Barnwell near Oundle was secured and 24 sponsors.

Everyone who has ever been to a Dragon Boat race will know how much fun these events are! Whether you decided to enter a team in a bid to be the champions of 2010, become a stall holder or exhibitor at the event or simply enjoy a great day out.

The day was not just about having fun, as well as having a great day there was a very serious side to the event, supporting the local worthy causes of the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance, Lakelands Hospice, Cransley Hospice and other charities supported by Rotary.

We must thank the sterling work put in by David Herbert and Barry Thomas, the steering committee and all those who gave other support by helping or turning up on the day.

Graham Wise



Road Show for all

This year it has been decided to hold a District Road Show at the following venues.

⇒ **Wednesday November 3**, Holiday Inn, Northampton West, NN7 4LP
(J 16 M1 – direction Daventry)

⇒ **Thursday November 4**, Marriott Hotel, Peterborough, PE2 6GB
(East of England Show Ground) 19.00hrs-21.30hrs

All Rotarians are invited to come and see for themselves examples of the work carried out to support Clubs in achieving their Rotary Goals. There will be no formal presentation during the evening. This is an informal opportunity to learn and to find out how District works.

During the evening tea and coffee will be available and also a cash bar.

We look forward to you joining us in November.

If you have any queries please contact DGN Chris Chew – chris@2chews.com or DGE Linda May – LMay1070@aol.com

Kettering exchange

From July 9-11 Kettering Rotarians received a visit from six members and their wives from the Rotary Club of Ocquier-en-Condroz in Belgium. Over twenty five years there have been many visits in each direction and many friendships forged between the two Clubs. Over the weekend, visits were made to Kettering and the lovely villages including Rushton, Geddington, Weekley, Warkton and Grafton Underwood. A reception was held at the home of Rotarian Robert Handley and his wife Miriam in Great Harrowden. The photograph was taken in their gardens.



Watermead Challenge

The clouds parted and the sun shone on the first Watermead Challenge. The event, at Watermead Park near Syston to the north of Leicester, attracted a field of 180 runners and walkers and was organised by the Rotary Club of the Wreake Valley. The course, over both three and five miles, covered circuits of John Merricks' and King Lear's Lakes through an attractive and maturing country park setting. The flat nature of the tarmac surface made it ideal for athletes aiming to achieve a personal best time. The event raised almost £1400 and this was shared between the Richard Engelgardt Trust Fund and St John Ambulance. Richard became wheelchair bound following an accident whilst playing for a local rugby club. Thanks to all who entered and those who helped in the planning and organisation, particularly the Rangers of Watermead Country Park. It is hoped to make this an annual event.





Pakistan flood appeal



The response to the natural disaster from the annual flooding in Pakistan was slow, but this time the sheer scale of the devastation with over half the country under significant amounts of water was astounding. So many people have been made homeless and worse still what little infrastructure that there is has been lost, together with the basic necessities of life; the crops have been destroyed.

in the aftermath that holds the long term solution.

The call went out by RIBI to all Clubs and it was President Brian who grasped the nettle, first with his 'Gherkin' jar that was passed around the club which, with the benefit of Gift Aid, grossed £200.00 and second, by liaising with the other two Rushden Clubs to organise a street bucket collection.

As with all things in life, there are hurdles to be overcome and our first was a licence and issued within 3 days allowing us to make our collection on Saturday 28th August.

Well done and a big thank you to the members of the three Clubs of Rushden Higham, Rushden Chichele and Rushden who strategically placed themselves during the day in Rushden High Street, outside Asda and at the Waitrose super store at Crown Park.

For some, the sun shone, for others, they got a little wet, but nothing to dampen the spirits, or the generosity of the public who responded with a magnificent total of £1695.86 (plus two US cents and a washer).

One might say that in the grand scheme of things this is a small contribution to the needs of the people of Pakistan, but every little helps, particularly when you have little to start with and all this has been lost.

Graham Wise

Daily, this human tragedy is unfolding and RIBI through its Disaster Appeal fund has recognised that, whilst emergency aid by way of Shelter and Aqua Boxes have been already sent, as with all these disasters, it's the clearing up and the rebuilding of communities with the necessary infrastructure

Round the world race

Ten Clipper Ventures race yachts sailed back into Hull on Saturday 17th July marking the end of a 10month race around the world.

Stamford Burghley member Peter Guttridge was on Clipper Qingdao, the 68ft Chinese sponsored yacht, with 16 crew and skipper. It was the end of a 3½ month, 9,000mile adventure which started in San Francisco and took in the last two "legs" of the race. Leg six was down the west coast, through the Panama Canal with the final leg to New York, across the Atlantic to Cork and finally around the south coast of England via Ijmuiden in Holland to Hull.

Peter reports: It seemed a good idea when I signed up in September 2007, but as start date of April 2010 grew closer I began to realise that 15 weeks away from work would need some careful planning!

In April I flew to San Francisco and finally set sail on the 3,300 mile race to Panama. The race start was spectacular, as we tacked back and forth towards the Golden Gate Bridge the San Francisco Fire Dept Tugs followed sending up huge jets of water 80ft into the air.

Five "leggers" joined the boat and we enthusiastically set about learning all the onboard routines.

We got soaked and exhausted as we fought to change the headsails with the bow bouncing up and down violently. Simply moving around on deck was a challenge. Hoisting sails, grinding the winches, packing spinnakers and generally moving sails up and down from below was quite hard work.

Below deck we found a whole set of different challenges –



how to deal with wet clothing (there's nowhere to dry anything), to sleep when the boat is pitching violently and heeled over at 30 degs and not to mention simply trying to move around. And then there was cooking, we took it in turns to be on "mother watch", it mattered not what the sea state was, two hot meals had to be prepared each day!

Port stopovers provided a rest between races and a chance to recharge batteries, the camaraderie between the crews

meant that there was never a dull moment and all the boats needed maintenance work to keep them in top condition. I took the opportunity to visit one Rotary Club – Sydney Sunrise, a breakfast club on Cape Breton Island who made me feel very welcome and kept me busy answering questions the whole time.

So to conclude, did I enjoy the experience – a big YES – my over riding memories are of sitting on deck loving every moment of the wind and the waves, the thrill of surfing the waves and trying to extract every last bit of speed out of Qingdao come rain or shine, the busy watches which flew by, the favourite dawn watch or the dark moonlit skies so full of stars, the dolphins that played in the bow waves and not forgetting the squall which took us all by surprise, frightened us and soaked us to the skin. Finally, nothing can top the euphoria we felt as we beat Hull & Humber into Kinsale, Ireland gaining 3rd place by a margin of 98secs after 2200miles of racing!

www.guttridge.co.uk/blog tries to capture some of the stories and dramas we experienced during the race.



Visit to the land of Dracula

Biggleswade Rotary Club visited the President of the Bistrita-Nosa Rotary Club in Romania, what a surprise and welcome they had.

The impression of Romania was immediately dispelled by the warmth and fellowship of the local people. The transition into the EU now underway and being funded, this is why Peter Marsh Biggleswade Rotarian is working there to provide water and sanitation to the region.



The spine chilling land of Transylvanian Dracula, Bram Stoker and adventures of Jonathan Harker in reality is easily felt. Not in any way exploited by tourism but all pervading as you walk the streets of the medieval town of Bistrita.

The club experienced hospitality beyond their expectations, but found no supermarkets or plush apartment, shop fronts that retained the historic image without garish advertising, clean streets and horse drawn carts are still commonplace.

The Clubs in Bistrita work with international organisations to redress the many inequities in health, education, child and disadvantaged people care, and have so far raised many of thousands of US dollars.

The Rotarians saw life as it could well have been in Biggleswade 70 years ago, unspoilt in its culture and historic architecture, but now being

sympathetically restored to retain its traditions and heritage. Prince Charles saw the potential several years ago and has an "estate" in the region which he is maintaining in the local crafts tradition. The only local tradition that was initially enjoyed before being taken carefully was the tradition of a "chaser" before all meals and drinks. This was a 55% proof clear plum aperitif. Wham !! what a drink.

Huge improvements in the fabric of the way of life are taking place just under the surface, which will allow this country to probably leap-frog its way into the 21st century without many of the issues of transition.



Future Vision district grants are set loose

A wide range of community projects are starting up among clubs across the district supported by grants from The Rotary Foundation. The district Foundation team received requests for 58 widely differing projects at home and abroad from 38 clubs, and grants have been awarded to all those clubs that applied.

The projects include:

- motor cycle ambulances in two African countries,
- support for the homeless in Bedford and Kempston,
- eco-projects in four separate locations in the East Midlands,
- two projects supporting medical interventions at an orphanage in the Philippines,
- local community centres for youth, those with learning difficulties and sufferers from other ailments,
- school and vocational training equipment in Africa including solar panels to lengthen the effective teaching day,
- three projects around drinking water supplies in Africa,
- support for the Rainbows hospice and training of day care assistants for other community support charities,
- anti-bully support for primary schools,

- a sports day for disabled groups in the north west of the district,
- projects to support and develop farming and agricultural product processing in Africa and in Eastern Europe,
- respite breaks for stressed carers,
- a telephone system in Nepalese villages along with wheel chairs in the same country,
- two outward-bound courses for young teenagers from around the district,
- Sailability,
- medical equipment for South India,
- equipment for an eye camp in Ghana.

Under the newly launched Future Vision of The Rotary Foundation, clubs were encourage to let the district Foundation team know of their plans and wishes. The challenge for the committee in July was to support these as widely as possible. £41,000 is now making its way to the clubs concerned. Some projects are already underway or completed, others are planned to take place during the whole of this Rotary year.

Well done Rotary, and thank you to The Rotary Foundation, for supporting communities across the world in such a diverse and fulfilling way.

Ortons on the move

Fun, friendship and fitness – there is more to being a Rotarian than simply fund raising and helping in the local community!

Members of the Rotary Club of Peterborough Ortons have just returned from a walking holiday in Northumbria ably led by their own experienced guide Roger Calver. Half day walks catered for all ages and abilities. They walked in a variety of locations including the Cheviots, St Cuthbert's Way, Holy Island and Cochrane Pike – all with stunning scenery, flora and fauna. During the remaining time members found the energy to visit local attractions such as Alnwick Castle & Gardens, Cragside, The Farne Islands, Berwick and Scotland.

A perfect example of the enjoyment to be had in Rotary.





Obituaries

George Gerald Todd Rotary Club of Grantham

Past President Gerald Todd died unexpectedly on May 31st 2010 after a fall in his garden.

Gerald was one of the patriarchs of the Grantham club having joined Rotary in 1962 and became President in 1973. He served as a member and chairman of most of the Club Committees, he always looked to new members and was indeed a fine example of proper conduct in the Club and was quick to bring 'points of order'!

Gerald was a well known and much respected businessman in Grantham as the proprietor of Cammacks in Westgate, known for fine china and previously, carpets, furniture and house removals. He was always a good source of what was going on in the town and a strong supporter of the commercial activities in Grantham.

John Wright Rotary Club of Bourne

John Wright died aged 91 on 2nd August 2010.

A dedicated member having joined Rotary in 1973 and becoming President in 1983 he contributed to the club until his health began to fail following the death of his wife, Christine, in 2007.

The club elected him as an honorary member for his dedicated contribution. His final months were spent in a care home in Cheadle close to his daughter.

Passed to higher service

- Tim Stansby**
Rotary Club of Grantham
- Gerald Todd**
Rotary Club of Grantham
- John Wright**
Rotary Club of Bourne
- Bill Worledge**
Rotary Club of Lutterworth

Loughborough Beacon's Engineering YES finds entrepreneurs

Following a successful inaugural event in 2009, the *Engineering YES 2010* competition, organised by the Rotary Club of Loughborough Beacon, Loughborough University and the University of Nottingham, took place at the Novotel East Midlands Hotel. Over fifty participants comprising eleven teams from the Universities of Birmingham, Loughborough, Nottingham, and De Montfort Leicester competed. Engineering YES (Young Entrepreneurs Scheme) provides a unique opportunity for post-graduate and post-doctoral researchers in engineering subjects to experience the process of commercialising a research idea.

David Scott, Loughborough Beacon's organiser of the event, said, "The competition has a real buzz. It runs over three days - and nights - and delegates work in small teams to prepare a business plan for a fictitious company. It culminates in a nerve-racking presentation to a panel of investors." He added, "I think the intensive programme of activities away from the university environment is a

key factor in the programme's success, and it leaves everyone with a better understanding of the business world."

Throughout the three-day event speakers and mentors from industry and commerce gave their time freely to advise and guide the teams as they developed their business plans. Judges included venture capitalists, and senior representatives from regional development agencies, local firms and professional organisations. The teams became immersed in the process and, although exhausted at the end, they felt the process had been both enjoyable and beneficial.

The overall winners were a team from the University of Nottingham who received a cheque for £2000 and free membership of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. The runners-up, who received a cheque for £500, were a combined team from De Montfort and Loughborough Universities. Prizes were also awarded by Potter Clarkson for Best use of IP (£250) and by the Rotary Club of Loughborough Beacon for Best Teamwork (£250).

New members to 30th September

- Geoff Jones, Stamford Burghley
- Steven Wood, Wellingborough Hatton
- Jack Weaver, Hinkley
- Robert Rawlinson, Leicester
- Atul Patel, Leicester
- Gary Hunt, Leicester
- Mary Dowglass, Stamford St. Martins
- Steve Buck, Stamford St. Martins
- Leigh Frost, Biggleswade Ivel
- Paul Dunham, Sleaford Kesteven
- John Casewell, Northampton West
- Paul Smith, Holbeach
- Ann Smith, Holbeach
- Michael Dawes, Lutterworth Wycliffe
- Simon Bhojani, Wellingborough
- Sylvia Hobbs, Wellingborough
- Charlie Alexander, East Elloe
- Nigel Coleman, Wreake Valley
- Dr Mahesh Arora, Leicester Novus
- Ralph Wiggins, Northampton
- Andrew Redfern, Ashby de la Zouch
- Martin Sansom, Ashby de la Zouch
- David Nichols, East Elloe
- Court Rawson, Rushden Higham
- Victor Quick, Peterborough Minster
- Michael Larder, Market Harborough
- Paul Bunyford, Northampton
- Michael Watts, Thrapston & Raunds
- John Newman, Soar Valley
- David Beaumont, Coalville
- Collin Mullins, Coalville
- Brian Carmichael, Loughborough Beacon
- John Wilson, Lutterworth
- Rosemary Chapman, Lutterworth
- Bridget Hunt, Lutterworth
- Ruth Tallis, Lutterworth
- Martin Iliffe, Lutterworth
- Susan Ensor Keen, Lutterworth
- Anne Baker, Lutterworth
- Mark Ridley, Bedford de Parys
- Brian Carmichael, Soar Valley

Ambassadorial scholar

District 1070 has a new visiting Ambassadorial Scholar, she is Arisa Nojima sponsored by the RC Ginza, D-2750 Japan and she will be studying International Development at Leicester University. Any Clubs wishing her to speak or visit their Club should contact John Saunders, District Foundation Committee, Rotary Club of Leicester.



Bedford Rotaract



Bedford Rotaract reported that the River Festival took place on Sunday 18 July 2010 and took part in the Raft race which was a particular highlight of the festival. They faced stiff competition but came eighth place in the final race out of forty two teams. The club participated in the event in aid of Ridgeway School, a school for disabled children in Kempston.

Higham racers

A Road Race and Fun Run was held in September. There was a good turnout with 55 entrants for the Road Race, and 10 entries for the Kids Fun Run. £643 was raised for Help for Heroes. A great achievement for such a small club.



Sun shines on bright designs

On a sunny Saturday morning in Kettering at the end of June, 23 students, sponsored by ten clubs arrived at the Masque Theatre and laid out their entries to the District 1070 Final of Rotary Young Designer 2010.

The standard was incredibly high and it was a tough task for judges Tim Tucker and Technology Teacher Dorothy Greaves of Lutterworth to assess and rank the bright design ideas.

Roger McDermott was on hand to inspect the exhibits at Young Designer and also call into the workshops on Rotary Young Photographer and



Rotary Young Designer 2010 Anthony Page with his winning Motocross Track Design

Rotary Young Writer that were also part of our "Celebration of Creative Design" that morning.

This year's winner was Anthony Page (Ashby School, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ashby-de-la-Zouch) with an impressive design for a Motocross Track just outside Ashby. Second prize was awarded to Johanna Jackson-Grey (Robert Smyth School, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Market Harborough) with a striking design of a contemporary table lamp. A creditable third prize was awarded to Siobhan Morrison (St Paul's Catholic School, Leicester, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Leicester De Montfort) with a stylish dress worked from recycled materials.



*Above: Johanna's striking Table Lamp
Below: Siobhan's dress*



Much impressed by the overall standard, the judges used their discretion to award a prize for Commercial Viability to Michael Fiford (King Edward VII School, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Melton Mowbray and Melton Mowbray Belvoir) for his electronic tennis trainer and a prize for Craftmanship to Chris Fox (Ashby School, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ashby-de-la-Zouch).

Roger May & David Whitehead



Above: Michael's ingenious Tennis Trainer



Left: Chris' chair showed true craftsmanship

Rainbows' open day

Lutterworth Rotary are proud to support Rainbows new £4m therapy wing and the refurbishment which is now complete, thanks to public generosity and funding. They really have something to shout about.

The huge building includes a hydrotherapy pool and multi-sensory room. All fourteen bedrooms are either new or have been completely refurbished. At their Open Day on Saturday 25th September those who attended had the unique chance to see and talk to the children and their families as well as talk to members of staff.

The New building is linked by a short corridor made of glass bricks which have been sponsored by both individuals and organisations and has raised a cool £1 million. There are 7



colours each representing a different value donation. Lutterworth Rotary have 2 bricks – one Ruby (£2,500) and 2 Sapphire (£1,000) Lutterworth Inner Wheel a Sapphire brick in this very light and colourful passage leading from one building to the other – each engraved with the donor's name.

In order to maintain their newly extended and enhanced Hospice for children in the East Midlands, the only children's hospice serving the East Midlands region' will need to raise £3.8 million a year through public donations.

Glass wall – Dana Simons Appeal Manager and Rotarian John Turner



District Calendar

OCTOBER

Vocational Service month
28 District Council Corby

NOVEMBER

Foundation month
3 District Roadshow Nr Northampton
4 District Roadshow P'boro
29 General Council Alcester

DECEMBER

Family of Rotary month
8 District Exec/Team Corby

JANUARY

Awareness month
5 District Executive Corby
16-23 RI Assembly San Diego
24 District Council Corby

FEBRUARY

World Understanding month
6-7 General Council Alcester
19 D.O.T.S. Corby
23 Rotary Day
tba Young Musician semi-final
22-23 Thanks for Life week

DG's Diary Dates

OCTOBER

28 District Council
29/31 District 1120 Conference

NOVEMBER

1 Uppingham E
2 St Neots St Marys E
3 District Roadshow E
4 Area G Pres Evening E
6 PDG's Meeting
8 Melton Mowbray Belvoir E
11 Kimbolton Castle E
15 Rushden Chichele Charter E
16 Ashby Castle B
16 Peterborough Werrington E
17 District Quiz Final E
18 Rutland E
19 Peterborough Charter E
22 Lutterworth L

22 Coalville E
23 Peterborough L
24 South Holland Charter
25 Leicester Novus E
29 General Council
30 Blaby E

DECEMBER

6 Soar Valley E
7 Market Bosworth L
7 Hinckley E
8 District Team/Exec E
21 Ashby Castle Party B

JANUARY

6 District Exec E
26 Kempston Charter E
27 P'boro Minster Charter E
29 Young Chef District Final
31 Soar Valley Charter E

And they did this for fun!

Italy to Spalding 700 miles, 10 countries, 10 days, £7,671 raised by Spalding pedallers on killer expedition for Breakthrough, Orchid, Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance, and Lighthouse Youth Club.



Coming Events

Drop in on the 1070 District Road Show
Cards and ALL Members welcome any time between 7.00 & 9.30 pm
Coffee / Tea Cash Bar
November 2nd (Wednesday) Holiday Inn Northampton West
November 4th (Thursday) Marriott Hotel Peterborough

Friday, 19th November 2010 - The Rotary Club of St Neots Charity Race Night 7.00 for 7.30pm at The Willows Centre, Wyboston Lakes, MK44 3AL. Tickets £12.50, inc chicken & chips supper and racecard. Full details of the Race Night can be found on www.rotaryevents.org.uk, via which tickets can be purchased.

Bedford Rotaract Christmas Quiz: 3 December 2010 Tempsford Village Hall.

Lutterworth Rotary and Wycliffe Clubs Santa Fun Run Sunday 28th November Full details are available on line:- www.santafunrun.org

The Rotary Club of Oadby Cinefilm Race, Saturday 4th December 2010 at Thurnby Memorial Hall. Tickets are £10 each, including a buffet supper. Contact jeff@orchardend.net for tickets.

Grimethorpe Colliery Band, Saturday 4th December 2010 at the Deepings Leisure Centre, 7pm. Tickets £15.

The Rotary Club Werrington ROTARYSWIM Charity Fun Swim
sponsored by centrica energy
Jack Hunt Pool, Bradwell Road, Peterborough
Sunday, 21st November 2010
From 9.00 am onwards

The Stamford Santa Fun Run is December 12th 2010 Details: JW Consultancy, tel. 07780 923439, www.stamfordsantafunrun.com

